

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A punch holder, comprising,  
an elongated body having a forward end with an enclosed first  
compartment having a shape to receive and engage a shank  
of an elongated punch,  
a plunger slidably mounted in the body and having a forward  
end in the enclosed compartment,  
a spring associated with the plunger disposed within a second  
compartment and yieldingly urging the plunger into the  
enclosed first compartment,  
an elongated slot in the body,  
a handle secured by one end to the plunger and extending  
outwardly through the slot to permit manual grasping  
thereof to pull the plunger rearwardly against the  
spring to release the punch shank from engagement with  
the plunger, or to permit the placement of a punch  
within the enclosed compartment in the path of a forward  
end of the plunger; ~~and~~  
a third storage compartment disposed within the body for  
receiving a plurality of punches; and  
wherein the second compartment is defined by first and second  
transverse walls wherein the first transverse wall  
separates the first and second compartments and the  
second transverse wall separates the second and third  
compartments.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) The punch holder of claim 1 wherein a threaded plug engages the spring to adjust the compression of the spring.

5. (previously presented) A punch holder, comprising,  
an elongated body having a forward end with an enclosed first  
compartment having a shape to receive and engage a shank  
of an elongated punch,  
a plunger slidably mounted in the body and having a forward  
end in the first enclosed compartment,  
a spring associated with the plunger disposed within a second  
compartment yieldingly urging the plunger into the  
enclosed compartment,  
an elongated slot in the body,  
a handle secured by one end to the plunger and extending  
outwardly through the slot to permit manual grasping  
thereof to pull the plunger rearwardly against the  
spring to release the punch shank from engagement with  
the plunger, or to permit the placement of a punch  
within the enclosed compartment in the path of a forward  
end of the plunger; and  
a threaded plug engaging the spring to adjust the compression  
of the spring.

6. (previously presented) The punch holder of claim 5 further comprising a third compartment disposed within the body for receiving a plurality of punches.

7. (currently amended) The punch holder of claim ~~5~~1 wherein the enclosed first compartment is frusto-shaped having a flat head and tapered side walls.

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)